Teams and remedial measures thereon.

(iii) Induction of modern technological aids like ultrasonic testing of rails and rolling stock axles, provision of track circuiting, axle-counters, auxiliary warning system, etc.

(iv) Programmed rehabilitation of assets.

(v) Improvement in quality of staff training.

Ancient Monuments

219. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while a number of State Governments have enacted Statutes along the lines of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act of 1958, there is no specific statutory framework for the Union Territory of Delhi in the absence of which Delhi's monuments are neglected;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not having any legal framework in this regard for the Union Territory of Delhi;

(c) whether Government have considered the desirability of having a single uniform law on conservation of monuments in the country defining the role of the Central and the State Government; and

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to bring a suitable legislation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) For looking after the monuments other than those declared to be of national importance in Delhi, Delhi Administration has set up a Department of Archaeology. Necessary steps have been initiated for the enactment of suitable laws on the lines of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

(c) and (d) The conservation of monuments are governed by the Central and State Acts which are on the same lines. The monuments protected by the State and Central Governments are conserved according to Archaeological principles.

Purchase of Air-bus-310

220. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has decided to purchase some Air-buses-310 to replace the outdated Boeing 707; and

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Yes, Sir. Air-India has already phased out its B-707 aircraft and inducted six A310—300 Air buses in its fleet during 1986-87.

(b) The total project cost of six aircraft alongwith the associated spare engines, spares, equipment, simulator etc. is estimated at Rs. 541.90 crores which includes a foreign exchange content of US $ 443.5 million.

Poor condition of National Highways

221. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to poor condition of National Highways resulting in increase in accidents, the country is wasting about Rs. 650 crore every year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the large number of bridges on the National Highways are in a very dilapidated condition; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken/propose to take to improve the conditions of National Highways during the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Government are aware that by upgrading the National Highways to desirable standards, considerable savings can result by way of decreased fuel consumption and maintenance costs and by minimising the risk of accidents.

(b) Government have conducted a quick survey of bridges on National Highways and have identified the bridges which are in need of repairs and reconstruction.

(c) The resources earmarked for improvement of National Highway System inclusive of the bridges in the network has been increased. During 1987-88 allocation for development of National Highways was increased by 17 per cent compared to 1986-87. The allocation of 1988-89 will be known after the Budget is presented and approved.

Paucity of funds for AIDS control Programme

222. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AIDS control programme in the country has been delayed due to paucity of funds etc.;

(b) if so, the allocations mode for the said task during 1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(c) what are the reasons for not making available of funds and what further steps Government propose to take to effectively bring the AIDS control plan in action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) There has been no paucity of funds for the AIDS Control Programme. During 1986-87, a sum of Rs. 40.00 lakhs was made available and during 1987-88, an amount of Rs. 50 lakh has been provided for the programme. In addition, Indian Council of Medical Research has allocated Rs. 22 lakhs during 1986-87 and Rs. 20 lakhs during 1987-88 for AIDS research.

(c) The action plan being pursued at present, is prevention through public education coupled with effective surveillance. The Government proposes to intensify public education through mass media and expansion of surveillance activities and training of workers to build up capabilities for detection, diagnosis and treatment of AIDS cases.

Artificial tracks for Punjab

223. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has decided to provide 3 artificial tracks for Punjab in order to implement the new Sports Policy;

(b) if so, the allocations made to Punjab for the development of sports during the last 3 years, year-wise; and

(c) the details of the artificial tracks to be provided for sports and what is the extent to which the development of sports in Punjab will be boosted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RE-